



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
SERVICES

Spring 2008

* make a plan * build a kit * be prepared * get involved *

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Are You Earthquake Prepared?

No matter where you are, know how to protect yourself and your family during an earthquake. Practice taking cover as if there were an earthquake and learn the safest places in your home and work. Practice getting out of your home and check to see if the planned exits are clear and if they can become blocked in an earthquake. Practice turning off your electricity and water. Know how to turn off the gas, but do not practice this step. In the event of an earthquake, once you turn off your gas, only your utility company should turn it back on for safety reasons.

Tips

- When in a HIGH-RISE BUILDING, move against an interior wall if you are not near a desk or table. Protect your head and neck with your arms. Do not use the elevators.
- When OUTDOORS, move to a clear area away from trees, signs, buildings, or downed electrical wires and poles.
- When on a SIDEWALK near buildings, duck into a doorway to protect yourself from falling bricks, glass, plaster and other debris.
- When DRIVING, pull over to the side of the road and stop. Avoid overpasses and power lines. Stay inside your vehicle until the shaking stops.
- When in a CROWDED STORE OR OTHER PUBLIC PLACE, move away from display shelves containing objects that could fall. Do not rush for the exit.
- When in a STADIUM OR THEATER, stay in your seat, get below the level of the back of the seat and cover your head and neck with your arms.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2007, the largest earthquake in the contiguous U.S. was the magnitude 5.4 Alum Rock shaker last October!

Duck

DUCK or DROP down on the floor.

Cover

Take COVER under a sturdy desk, table or other furniture. If that is not possible, seek cover against an interior wall and protect your head and neck with your arms. Avoid danger spots near windows, hanging objects, mirrors or tall furniture.

Hold

If you take cover under a sturdy piece of furniture, HOLD on to it and be prepared to move with it. Hold the position until the ground stops shaking and it is safe to move.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

- We're looking for volunteer trainers! Ability to speak, read, and write Spanish, Vietnamese, and/or Chinese is a plus!
- Our revamped 20-hr San José Prepared! CERT course is set to launch in the coming months!
- We're continually taking speaking requests for our 2-hr Home and Family Disaster Preparedness Course!
- The OES website is continuously being updated. Keep checking back for more information.

www.sanjoseca.gov/emergencyservices

The Hayward Fault: 140 Years Later

October 21, 2008 will mark the 140th anniversary of the 1868 Hayward earthquake, which was the first great "San Francisco earthquake" and one of the most damaging earthquakes in the nation's history. Still standing as the country's 12th deadliest quake, the magnitude 7.0 temblor claimed 30 lives and caused an extensive loss of property. Should an earthquake occur on the Hayward fault today, the population at risk is now 100 times larger than in 1868, where it affected a population of just over 150,000. For more information about the 1868 quake, visit <http://www.1868alliance.org>.



Spanish Home and Family Disaster Preparedness Made Possible by PG&E

By Yolanda Aguirre



This year, with the support of a \$5,000 grant from PG&E, San José Prepared! successfully launched the 2-hour Home and Family Disaster Preparedness Course in Spanish. These trainings have been done for community parent groups, libraries, and other community based organizations.

Eighteen parents from Catholic Charities' First 5 program were trained in disaster preparedness. Participants showed keen interest in the material covered and learned a lot during the training. They also volunteered in showing each other how to turn off the gas valve, where to shop for radios

and supplies, and came up with many ideas on how to stay calm during a disaster.

The goal for the 2-hour course is to reach as many people as possible in San José. We hope that participants will find the material to be helpful in preparing for disasters. Our vision is also to provide this information in Vietnamese and Chinese, with the help of the community. We currently have one Spanish trainer and are working to train two others. We look forward to continuing to provide the information and tools to get you and your family prepared!

San José RACES and the Warehouse Fire

By Bill Moffit and Chris Swartout

San José RACES responded to a four-alarm fire at 686 N. King Road on Sunday, February 3, 2008. The Incident Commander (IC) requested RACES support for this event at 11:00 p.m., approximately 30 minutes after the fire was reported. RACES elements arrived at San José's Emergency Operations Center at 11:15, and on scene at 11:30 p.m.

According to San José Fire Captain Barry Stallard, a crew of about 60 responded, and the fire was controlled at about 12:40 a.m. For reasons of safety, crews did not attempt to enter the estimated 30,000 square-foot warehouse, but firefighters remained on site until fire investigators arrived at daylight to investigate the cause of the fire. Water from fire hoses and

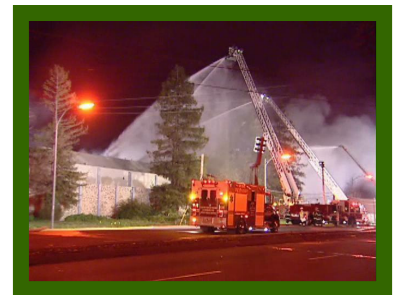
recent rainy weather helped keep flames from spreading outside of the structure, Stallard said. The warehouse, in an industrial area of San José near Mabury Road, was reportedly vacant except for furniture in a small office. Although the roof collapsed, Stallard said the remaining structure appeared to be intact, and no injuries were reported.

RACES provided radio communications support for the Incident Commander until the City's Incident Dispatch team arrived and took over communications for the event. RACES resources were released from the event at 12:15 a.m.

San José RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services) is an all-

volunteer emergency communications organization, consisting of amateur ("ham") radio operators and operated under the auspices of the San Jose Office of Emergency Services.

For more information about San José RACES, visit <http://www.sjraces.org>.



Go GREEN! Receive the Newsletter Electronically!

In keeping with the City of San José's Green Vision, we are asking newsletter recipients to consider switching from hardcopy to electronic versions of the newsletter. If you are interested in receiving future editions of the newsletter in your "inbox" rather than your mailbox, please contact us either by leaving a message on our phone

line at (408) 277-4598 or you can send us an email message at sjprepared@sanjoseca.gov. Be sure to leave your name and email address in your message.

Now you can be proud in knowing that you have done your part in helping the City of San José advance it's Green Vision!



The City of San José's Office of Emergency Services offers its

Free Two-Hour Home and Family Disaster Preparedness Training

Imagine, In Two Hours You Can Learn...

- About hazards you should prepare for in San José
- Ways to reduce the risks of loss and injury before disaster strikes
- How to create a family disaster plan
- What you should include in your personal and family disaster supplies
- About opportunities to become even more involved and disaster prepared

Gather 10 or more people for training at your location.

To attend, call (408) 277-4598 or e-mail sjprepared@sanjoseca.gov

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mar. 25, 2008	6:00 pm	Tully Community Branch Library
April 5, 2008	2:00 pm	Rose Garden Branch Library
April 15, 2008	9:30 am	Alma Senior Center
April 22, 2008	6:00 pm	Almaden Branch Library
May 8, 2008	5:30 pm	Almaden Community Center
June 4, 2008	6:00 pm	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
June 25, 2008	6:00 pm	Evergreen Branch Library
July 15, 2008	6:30 pm	Alum Rock Youth Center
July 22, 2008	9:30 am	Willows Senior Center
July 29, 2008	6:30 pm	Willows Senior Center
Aug. 5, 2008	6:00 pm	Southside Community Center
Aug. 13, 2008	6:00 pm	Camden Community Center
Aug. 19, 2008	9:30 am	West San José Comm. Center
Sept. 9, 2008 (1 st hr)	11:00 am	Gardner Senior Program
Sept. 13, 2008	9:30 am	Evergreen Community Center
Sept. 16, 2008 (2 nd hr)	11:00 am	Gardner Senior Program

AFFIX
STAMP
HERE

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Visit us online!

www.sanjoseca.gov/emergencyservices



Meet the new members of the Office of Emergency Services!



Scarlett Li Lam, our new Administrative Manager, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Office of Emergency Services. She has a MBA from UC Berkeley and has worked as a senior advisor for the San José Mayor and City Council for over ten years.



Alvin Galang received his Master of Public Health degree from San José State University, where he is also a part-time instructor. A life-time Bay Area resident, he has a background in community health education and has done previous work for local non-profit agencies as well as the Santa Clara County Public Health Department.



Saman Saffarzadeh comes to the Office of Emergency Services from the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, where he was the Public Health Emergency Management Program Specialist and Long Beach Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator. He comes to OES with a public health background, receiving his Master of Public Health degree from California State University Long Beach.



Dorene Yamaguchi received her Masters Degree in International Educational Development and Humanitarian Affairs from Columbia University. Born and raised a San José resident, her previous work experience includes managing Disaster Services for the American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter, in Contra Costa County.